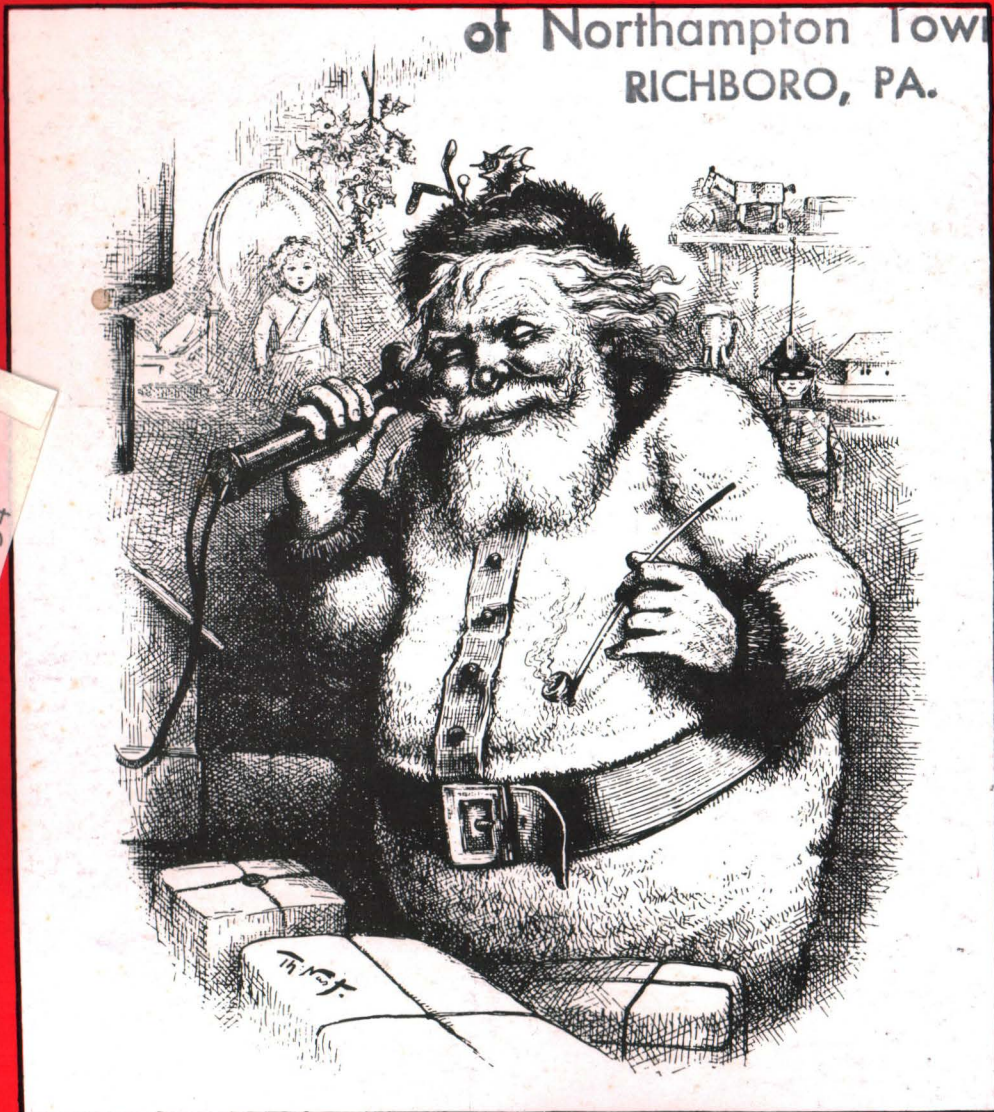


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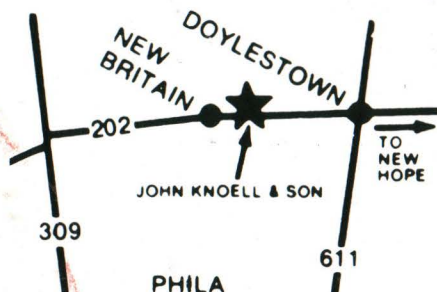
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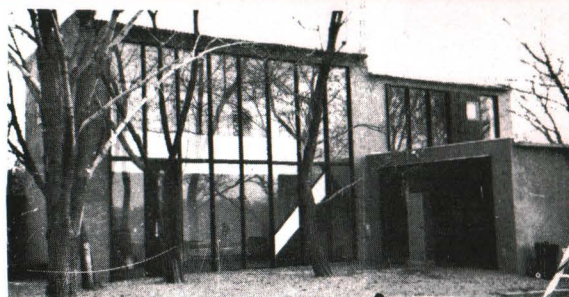
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Bucks County PANORAMA

— The Magazine of Bucks County —

ESTABLISHED 1959

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CALENDAR of EVENTS

Courtesy of the Bucks County Historical-Tourist Commission

DECEMBER, 1971

- 1 - 31 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Narration and Famous Painting, "Washington Crossing the Delaware", Daily 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Memorial Building, at ½ hour intervals.
- 1 - 31 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Thompson-Neely House furnished with pre-Revolutionary pieces, Route 32, Washington Crossing State Park. Open 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- 1 - 31 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Old Ferry Inn, Route 532 at the bridge. Restored Revolutionary furniture, gift and snack shop where Washington Punch is sold. Open daily 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- 1 - 31 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Taylor House, built in 1812 by Mahlon K. Taylor, now serves as headquarters for the Washington Crossing Park Commission. Open to the public weekdays 8:30 to 5 p.m. Saturday 8:30 to 11:00 a.m.
- 1 - 31 MORRISVILLE — Pennsbury Manor, the re-created Country Estate of William Penn. Original Manor House was built in 1683. Open daily 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sundays 1 to 4:30 p.m. Admission 50 cents.
- 1 - 31 BRISTOL — The Margaret R. Grundy Memorial Museum, 610 Radcliffe Street, Victorian Decor. Hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. 1 to 3 p.m. Other times by appointment.
- 1 - 31 DOYLESTOWN — Mercer Museum, Pine and Ashland Streets. Hours: Tuesday thru Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Monday, Library of the Society — Tuesday thru Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Wed., 1 to 2 p.m. Admission — Adults \$1.00 and children under 12 — 50 cents. Special rates for families and groups. Groups by appointment. Closed January 1st until March 1st.
- 1 - 31 DOYLESTOWN — Moravian Pottery and Tile Works, Swamp Road, Route 313, North of Court Street, Sunday — Noon to 5 p.m., Wednesday thru Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: \$1.00 for adults, children 25 cents. Special Tours, Group Rates. Closed Christmas.
- 1 - 31 PINEVILLE — Wilmar Lapidary Art Museum. The Country's largest private collection of hand-carved semi-precious stones. Open to the public Tuesday thru Saturday 10 a.m. to 5

(continued on page 14)



SACHEM OF THE DELAWARES

by Lee Dennis

Did someone speak with forked tongue long ago at Annapolis? It would seem so. Traditionally, midshipmen at the United States Naval Academy have saluted with their left hand and pitched many a penny at a revered Indian statuary they have fondly called Tecumseh. But, now it has come to light that this red skinned benefactor, who through the years has helped countless "middies" pass their examinations and win football games, is not Tecumseh. He is, in fact, the famed chief of the Delawares and an early legend of Bucks County — Tamanend.

Actually, Academy historians have admitted that the statue's true identity has been known since 1914, but they decided against making the knowledge public because of the naval students' attachment to the name and tradition of Tecumseh. Yet, today in the fervent quest for peace, it seems only fitting that

Tamanend, "The Affable," should replace Tecumseh, the warlike chief of the Shawnees.

How did Tamanend find his way into the Academy? A battleship, the State of Delaware, in 1821 had Tamanend as its carved, wooden figurehead, and this ship saw duty in the Civil War. Upon its destruction, the figurehead was saved, and later presented to the Academy at Annapolis. For some unknown reason, the midshipmen started calling the Indian figurehead Tecumseh. The wood gradually suffered decay and rot until in 1930 the class of 1891 donated a bronze replica of the old figurehead to the Academy. However, the original Tamanend can be seen today in the Smithsonian Institute.

Although both of these Indian sachems had names of eight letters, beginning with "T," all resemblance between the two ended there. Tecumseh was born

several years after the death of Tamanend. He was a strong warrior and a gifted orator, but he was very much anti-United States. He condemned a treaty of William Henry Harrison with the Indians, which led to the battle of Tippecanoe. Later, he fought for the British and was killed in their service shortly after the battle of Lake Erie in 1812.

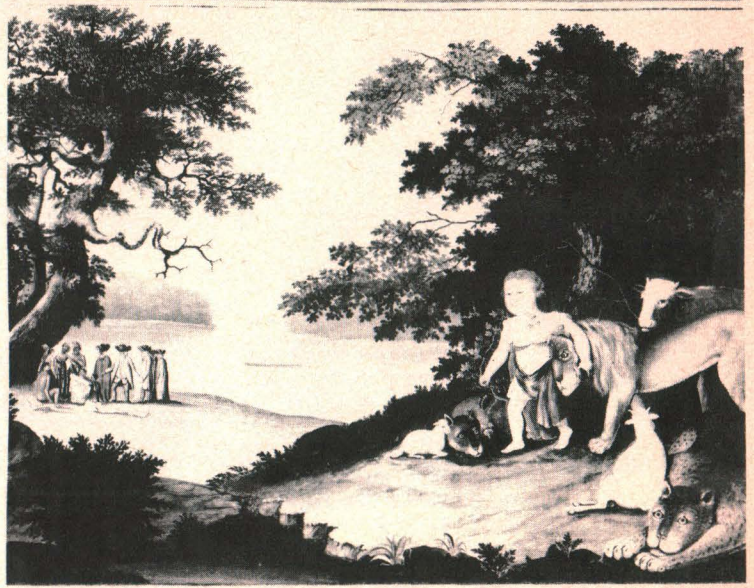
Tamanend, on the other hand, was a deeply respected, peace-loving chief. He was head of the Turtle Clan of the Lenni-Lenape. History tells us that he was among the first to welcome William Penn to these shores. He is most noted for his signing of a treaty with Penn on June 23, 1683, at Shackamaxon beneath a huge elm. This scene is commemorated in well known paintings by Edward Hicks and Benjamin West. There even existed a myth that the three white balls on Penn's coat-of-arms represented dumplings, which Tamanend was supposed to have cooked for him under this treaty tree.

In the treaty the Indian king conveyed all the lands lying between the Pennypack and Neshaminy creeks. For reasons not too clear, Tamanend actually sold this land three times. In 1692, he signed with Lt. Governor Markham, establishing the maintenance of Lenape trails as a sign of Indian friendship with the whites. His last deed was dated July 5, 1697.

The name of Tamanend has been perpetuated by various Tammany societies. May 1st was designated as St. Tammany's Day. Groups of patriots at the time of the Revolution decided to adopt Tamanend as their patron and they became the New York Tammany Society. This disintegrated over the years into the ignoble Tammany Hall. Unfortunately, little is known of Tamanend. He is almost a legendary figure. About a century ago, graves thought to be Indian (the Lenape or Delawares buried their dead) were found on top of Prospect Hill above the Neshaminy in southeastern New Britain township. Tamanend was known to regard Prospect Hill as his own and Dr. Henry Mercer felt evidence supported the fact that the great chief was buried here. Plans for the construction of a large monument were made by the doctor, but these were never executed. In 1911, the Bucks County Historical Society purchased a plot of ground on Upper State Road west of Bristol Road, where the chief's bones were believed to have been interred. A cement tablet marking the spot was made up but never erected. It reposes today in the Mercer Museum.

History records that a Walter Shewell buried an old chief (who had committed suicide) above the Neshaminy, about 1750. The story goes that this old Indian chief was traveling with other members of his

The leopard with the harmless kid laid down And not one savage beast was seen to frown



When the great PENN his famous treaty made With indian chiefs beneath the Elm-tree's shade.

tribe to a treaty meeting of Proprietaries in Philadelphia. The Indians, because of the chief's infirmities, had to stop and make camp enroute along the Neshaminy. Impatient with the thought of continuing further with their burden, they broke camp early, leaving their chief in the care of a young squaw. The chief was enraged when he found himself left behind, and in desperation tried to stab himself. Lacking the strength to do this, he set fire to his own bed of leaves and boughs. The delegation, unable to be heard in Philadelphia because they were without their leader, returned to the spot to find their chief dead and charred with a hole in his side. Was this deserted old man Tamanend? If so, the great king would have had to be in his nineties, as it has been established he was a young chieftain of about thirty when he signed his first treaty in 1683. The circumstances surrounding Tamanend's death and burial obviously are still a mystery and in dispute. Also, no drawings of Tamanend are known to exist, so who designed the old figurehead on that battleship?

The answers to these questions may always remain shrouded by the mists of time, but perhaps the "original owner of Bucks County" has come into his own at last. That is, if the midshipmen at the United States Naval Academy will begin saying, "Hail, Tamanend."



Detwiler Road Farm — 1900. Granville and Alice Sellers and most of their children.

UNTO THE FIFTH GENERATION

by Virginia Frazier Black

On October 17, 1875 Alice Larzelere and Granville Sellers were united in marriage by Reverend William Yearick at Hilltown Baptist Church in Bucks County. Almost one hundred years later the names of three hundred forty-five of their descendants (of which this writer is one) and their spouses were transcribed on their family tree at the second biennial Sellers Reunion — held on June 20th at Washington Crossing State Park.

The Larzelere family is a well known one in Bucks County. Their forbears were proud, long-lived, prolific French Huguenots who settled on Staten Island about 1675. The first record of the family in Bucks County was in 1734. They lived in the Bristol-Bensalem Township areas and the archives show that some of the Larzelere men fought in the Revolutionary War. Throughout the genealogy one finds the names Nicholas and Benjamin many times.

Alice Larzelere's father, Benjamin, and his wife, Mary Ann, nee Maxwell, moved from Willow Grove to Bucks County in 1849. He bought land on both sides of Limekiln Pike around Mill Creek Road in

Eureka. There, in a large house containing one of the first bathrooms in the area, Benjamin and Mary Ann raised nine children, seven girls and two boys. In later years they moved across the pike to a smaller house where they lived for the rest of their lives. Benjamin died in 1916 at the age of ninety and Mary Ann in 1919 at the age of ninety two. Both are buried in Doylestown Cemetery. The smaller homestead is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bishop. It is a lovely house close to the road, shaded by beautiful old trees and has been carefully restored and enlarged.

The Sellers family, also, has deep roots in Bucks County. Granville's father, Elias, and his wife, Rosalinda, (nee Garner), for many years owned a farm off Upper State Road in Chalfont not far from the Larzeleres. It was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Bready in 1949 and is now called Drued Springs Farm. It, too, is a lovely home, situated on a hill overlooking a pond and peaceful meadow and has been carefully restored and renovated by the present owners. One of the original rooms contains an immense, stone, walk-in fireplace with a charred

wooden beam running across the front of it. Mrs. Bready said that the beam is almost two hundred years old but feels that it will last for their lifetime. She, also, pointed out the deep-set windows in the room — each one is a different size. It was not difficult to visualize the house as it must have looked a hundred years ago. Granville and Alice lived there with his parents after they were married and nine of their ten children were born there. After his parents died and the house was sold, they moved to another farm on Detweiler Road where they lived for nine years.

Then the family decided to try city life. They moved down around Allegheny Avenue where Granville opened a butcher shop. Being country people at heart this lasted for only two years. They moved back to Bucks County where Granville farmed several other places around New Britain, at times working on shares. Meanwhile the children were growing up and leaving home. Several had large families of their own thus contributing to the Sellers population explosion. Granville finally retired to live in North Wales and died in 1936. When Alice died in 1943 there were already forty great-grandchildren. In



Fireplace at Sellers homestead.



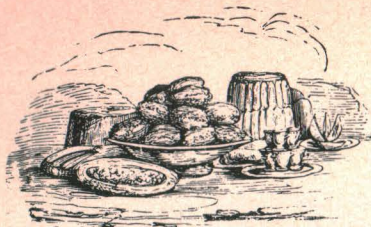
Larzelere homestead at Mill Creek Road and Limekiln Pike.

the ensuing years another whole generation has grown up and the fifth generation is well on its way.

Mrs. Emma Ambler of Eureka, a sprightly and gracious ninety three years young, showed my husband and me around the Eureka area where she has lived most of her life. Her mother was a Larzelere, making her a cousin of the Sellers children. Her amazing memory for names and dates was a delight. Without her directions we might have had a difficult time finding the Sellers and Larzelere homesteads. As we drove around she told us that the countryside has not changed too much although housing developments are springing up here and there. The store at the junction of Limekiln Pike, Lower State Road and County Line Road had been a general store for as long as she could remember until it closed a few years ago. Eureka is still a crossroads.

At the reunion only one of the three remaining children of Alice and Granville attended. She is Mrs. Marian Potts of Titusville, N.J. who has been responsible for reviving the family get-togethers. Mrs. Alice Pohle of Washington, D.C. and Mrs. Florence Frazier of Pinellas Park, Florida were unable to be there. However, the husband of one of the sisters, Mr.

(continued on page 27)



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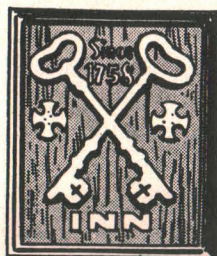
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CHRISTMAS through the ages

Santa descends from the original St. Nicholas, a kindly man who lived in Patara, Turkey, and died a martyr in 342 A.D., becoming the patron saint of children. Before long, the cult of St. Nicholas spread across Europe. He became the patron saint of Greece, Holland and Belgium. Merchant sailors used his three golden purses as a device on their guild flags. The Russians passed the good saint to the Scandanavians, at which time he was still mounted on a white horse according to an old tradition of Turkey. But the Scandanavians knew nothing of horses, so they gave him a reindeer-drawn sleigh. They also grafted to him the legend of the Norse God, Thor, who used to ride through the sky in a chariot, and would appear in a red coat for the pagan feast of Yule.

In the New World, the Dutch called St. Nicholas "Santa Claus" for short. Our modern conception of him comes from the famous poem, "The Night

Before Christmas." Dr. Clement C. Moore, a Presbyterian divinity professor in New York State, wrote it to please his children and modelled the hero after a little old wizened Dutch gentleman he bumped into one night in 1822 — a man with red cheeks and white hair, smoking an old clay pipe.

The origin of Christmas carols goes back to the times of St. Nicholas too. But, although these religious songs were sung in the first few centuries A.D., they didn't begin as a continuing tradition until the 14th century — as songs sung between the acts of nativity plays. More and more tunes were added, in various languages, and finally people began singing them other than in church. Actually, we owe the original Christmas carol to St. Francis and his order. He believed in moderate Christmas gaiety, and he modeled the carols on the "carole," which was a French form of sprightly dance.

Where did we get the custom of hanging Christmas stockings? The first Christmas stocking was really hung by the chimney *to dry!* And St. Nick, making his round of chimneys on Christmas Eve, dropped a bag of gold into the stocking by accident!

In the old days, Dutch children were more than glad to accept this concept. They used to place their wooden shoes by the chimney for Santa's offerings — but delightfully discovered that long winter stockings could hold far more of the yuletide goodies.

Ever wonder, as you deck the branches of that prize spruce or hemlock, who trimmed the first Christmas tree? Or when folks first "discovered" the existence of Santa Claus? Or who sang the first Christmas carol . . . hung the first Christmas stocking . . . chose a strategic spot for the first holiday mistletoe?

Some Christmas customs are surprisingly recent, while others date back to antiquity. Some have remained unchanged since their inception while others — like the stories of Santa and what he carries in his sack — have shown a fascinating evolution.

There is no mystery about the modern Christmas tree topped with its bright star . . . ablaze with lights . . . and heaped underneath with colored packages — but in olden times it was shrouded in myth.

For this holiday decoration we are indebted to the old Northern European belief that the trees of the forest were inhabited by god-like spirits. The Germans brought the trees into their homes to appease these "spirits" and show them they were welcome at the Winter Solstice ceremonies. Later, in the eighth century, St. Boniface converted the German pagans and convinced them to stop worshipping Odin's sacred oak and, instead, to adorn fir trees in their homes in tribute to the Christ Child.

There is also no doubt about the meaning of the modern mistletoe, and what will happen to you if you're standing under it. But the custom of kissing under the mistletoe comes down to us from the mystic rites of the primitive British priests. In their faraway age, the mistletoe, which means "all heal," was believed to have magic qualities — the power to heal disease, neutralize poisons, protect its possessor from witchcraft, and bestow fertility on humans and animals. If a young couple sealed their betrothal with a kiss under the mistletoe, they would receive wonderful blessings and much good luck for the rest of their lives.

And what of that jolly old fellow, Santa Claus? In olden times he was a complex symbol and many things to many people.



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WASHINGTON'S VISIT TO COLONEL HALL.

BUCKS COUNTY SOLDIERS

by Ken Chamberlain

The young men of Bucks County who fought on the rebel side or on the side of the king had at least one thing in common; their fate was tragic and ended in surrender, wounds, death, or the hardship of the prison ship or jail. For the Tories would be added the necessity of exile, and loss of property, which combatants on both sides had risked.

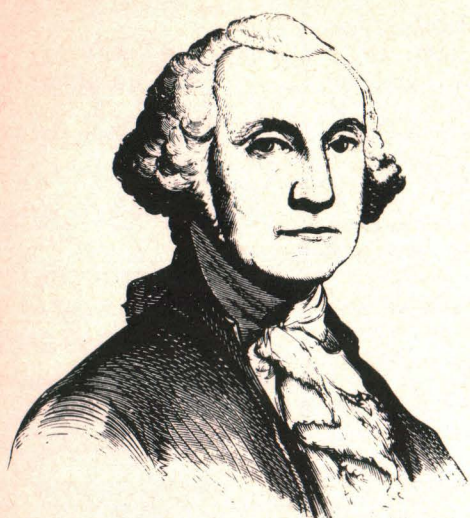
Three bodies of troops were raised in Bucks County. Besides associators, and marines, the rebels could count the gallant Bucks County Militia, whose combat experience was swiftly tested in one chill November's grey landscape on the northern end of Manhattan Island where Washington Heights is now located.

The Tories listed two Bucks County units, the Bucks County Light Dragoons and the Bucks County Volunteers. The first saw considerable service in the vicious West Chester, New York, partisan cavalry sabre and pistol clashes. The latter last grounded arms at Yorktown.

These were all Bucks County men, who left homes and families behind to serve their respective causes in somewhat distant fields of War.

General Washington, a gentleman soldier and frontiersman, won his first success in a conventional siege in the best European style at Boston. Although faced with the might of the British purse and the mobility of the Royal Navy, he was inclined to meet them on the traditional field of battle, drums beating, banners flying and swords flashing. Once the bayonet was utilized and mastered, he was able to stand up to the British with surprising success, but he was unable to win the war without the control of the seas offshore the stringbean thirteen united states.

Thus it was almost impossible to defend the deep and wide watery maze that we call metropolitan New York. Defend New York! Washington tried to do the impossible. He might as well have tried to defend Norway. The New York swampy island maze became a Continental Army death trap and a tempting goal that ultimately eluded the patriots until Peace presented it to them. King George III was so furious at losing the Revolutionary War that no British battle honors grace the regimental flags of today's Tommies, and never will! Their gallantry and sacrifices were to go without notice.



Washington was on the run in 1776, with a brave but out-fought diminished army, harried through-out the New York area, when Col. Baxter moved his 200 men into two "v" shaped trenches on Laural Hill. The rest of the Pennsylvanians were in other field works, principally Fort Washington. Magraw was in overall command. Cadwalader and Shee were there, as was Baxter of Bucks County. They would soon meet the brilliant proud regiments whose names thunder throughout British history; The Guards, the Black Watch, Cornwallis's West Riding, better known today as The Duke of Wellington's, and six others. Worst of all were haughty Germans, von Rall and von Knyphausen, deemed to a Trenton humiliation.

The fort had outlived its usefulness. Even Washington wanted assurances that its garrison could be drawn off. But he heeded other counsel. The British fleet had already taken control of the ice age estuary of the Hudson. The British would take Fort Washington with three assault columns and a feint party. One flag carried by an ensign, one drummer boy, and Lt. Col. Patterson advanced in the customary parley manner and asked for the surrender of the fort lest the garrison be put to the sword if he had to storm it. Magraw declined citing determination "to defend his post to the last extremity". It almost came to that.

About noon, November 15, 1776, Brig. General Matthews led two battalions of light infantry representing various British regiments, across the Harlem River in flatboats and landed below the Bucks County position, under a hot fire, but they came on, with dash, storming up the steep Laurel Hill.

Cornwallis came on behind in boats with fur-hatted grenadiers representing their assorted regiments, formed as was the custom of that time into combat battalions. He had two battalions of the Guards and the 33rd foot (Wellington's) regiment. He landed without a scratch.

But by this time Col. Baxter had fallen, and leaderless, the patriots of Bucks County fell back into what was to become a potential slaughter pen, Fort Washington. As the struggle for Fort Washington drew to a close, Magraw refused to surrender to von Rall. There were 2,500 Pennsylvanians within a space suited for 1,000 men. The cannons were coming up for bombardment. Magraw's "last extremity" had arrived. It was to von Knyphausen, in Schmidt's division, that the much-sought-for sword was tendered.

The two Hessian regiments, Rall's and Lossberg's were singularly honored to line the path of surrender. Between them the disarmed Americans marched out and gave up their colors which were yellow, red and light blue. The grim Knyphausen looked upon these banners and sneered. Col. Baxter's Bucks County Militia faded into history, prisoners of war.

The Tory companies raised in Bucks County were apt to have been home while Howe occupied Philadelphia. The American world has "little noted and long forgotten" the Tory soldier-citizen, usually from well-too-do, old, settled families. The patriot rebels won after all and get even to boot. The Tory or Loyalist no doubt felt he was serving Bucks County, his home and hearth, lifestyle, and his King. He is often depicted as a savage despoiler and burner. There was no love lost and the horrors and suffering of his oldsters, women and children are not what Americans care to read about. Yet the defeated Tory was forced to give up his Bucks County home, and begin anew in Canada, India, Australia, or the West Indies, or an England he never knew. He has left his dead among us, and he contributed to about half the historical existence of Bucks County.

Who would listen to his story? He was only a Tory. The British were quite embarrassed about having soldiered over here. They would get over that by 1812. They were even more embarrassed by the Tories, who became somewhat like modern Palestinians although it is to the Tories' credit that they busied themselves in rebuilding new homes and taught their children less of hate.

Captain Thomas Sanford savored the air of freedom in Yankee Massachusetts, and shared it with

(continued on page 28)

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(CALENDER cont. from page 3)

- 1 - 31 DOYLESTOWN — National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Ferry Road, Guided tours — Sunday 2 p.m., other tours upon request by reservations. Phone — 345-0600. Shrine Religious Gift Shop open 7 days a week 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free parking. Brochure available.
- 1 - 31 TELFORD — Lockwood Galleries, 345 Church Road. Paintings, sculpture, pottery and weaving exhibits. Hours: 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- 1 - 31 CHURCHVILLE — The Outdoor Education Center, Churchville County Park. Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 2 to 5 p.m. Family Nature Programs — 2:30 p.m. Sundays.
- 2,16 FEASTERVILLE — Tri-County Band will present concerts in the Bucks County Mall Street Road Shopping Center — 7:30 p.m. FREE.
- 3 NEWTOWN — Carol and Candlelight Procession in Colonial Costume and a parade into Newtown with caroling. 7 p.m. (Originates in the old Presbyterian Church, Sycamore Street.
- 4 NEWTOWN — 9th Annual historic Christmas Open House Tour — Noon to 8 p.m. Tickets — \$4.00 per person, a continuous buffet from Noon to 10 p.m. available at the Temperance House, not included in the ticket price. Advance tickets and information write the Newtown Historic Association, Inc., PO Box 303, Newtown, Pa. 18940.
- 4 SOLEBURY — Christmas Bazaar, Trinity Episcopal Church, Route 263. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Puppet Show by Suellen Bock at 2 p.m. — Admission 75 cents). Featuring lunch and tea — Country Kitchen — Homemade Christmas cookies, shortbread, Clothing Boutique.
- 5 WARMINSTER — Warminster Choraliers will present a Holiday Concert in the Log College Junior High School. For tickets and information call Mrs. Elizabeth Baker, 175 Cherry Lane, Doylestown, Pa. 18901
- 8 DOYLESTOWN — Annual Christmas Open House, Bucks County Historical Society, Mercer Museum, Pine Street — 7 to 9 p.m. Open to the public.
- 11 HOLICONG — New Hope Pro Musica Society will present a concert in the Central Bucks Auditorium East, featuring Pianist, Sandra Campbell; Baritone, Alan Wagner; Soprano, Dorothy Potts and the Neshaminy High School Senior Choir. 8:30 p.m. For tickets and information write Pro Musica, Box 204, New Hope, Pa. 18938 or call 862-2369.
- 11 PERKASIE — The Youth Orchestra of the Greater Philadelphia area will be featured in a concert sponsored by the Pennridge High School band and orchestra in the Auditorium at 8 p.m. Special soloist will be Maureen Wimmer, Miss Pennsylvania, Conductor of the orchestra is Joseph Primavera.
- 25 WASHINGTON CROSSING — 195th Anniversary of Washington Crossing the Delaware. The annual re-enactment — Washington Crossing State Park, Memorial Building Mall. 2:00 p.m.

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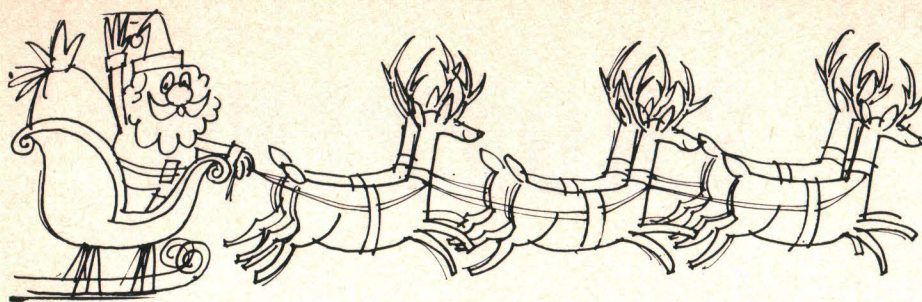
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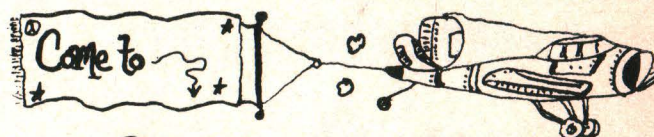
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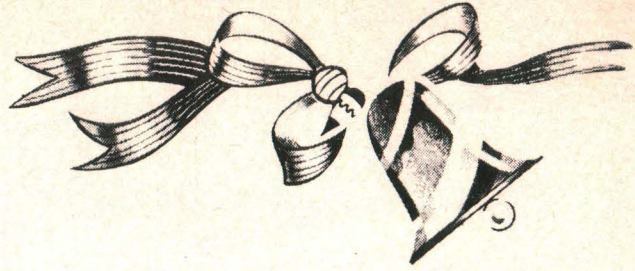
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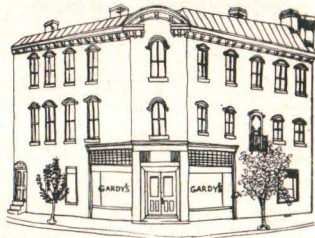
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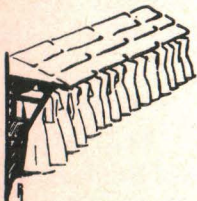
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Rambling with Russ

by

A. Russell Thomas

THREE WEEKS IN WISCONSIN

MEMORABLE VACATION: Our 1971 vacation took us aboard a 727 Fan Jet, Northwest Orient and TWA to Madison, Wisconsin, where this Rambler spent three joyous weeks on a visit with my daughter and her family. What I saw and did would fill many issues of Panorama.

My 77th birthday happened to fall on August 17th. Several days later I was driven to Milwaukee for a real birthday treat at Milwaukee's famous Old World Restaurant, KARL RATZSCH'S, "The Nation's Finest". This Rambler looked over the menu and ordered Schnitzel Ala Holstein (Fried Egg, Anchovies, Capers, Breaded Veal Cutlet, National Dish of Holstein). The rest of the family including daughter, son-in-law and three grandchildren, selected various delicacies, such as Grenadier's Beefsteak Ala Ratzsch (Thick Filet Mignon — A Sauce of Mushrooms, Chicken Livers and Madiera Wine). Prices ranged from \$4.95 for Thueringer Bratwurst, Red Cabbage of Pork and Veal to \$16.95 for "Gracious Dining For Two including Crab Louis Appetizer, Caesar Salad Mixed at Your Table, Chateaubriand, Mushroom Sauce, Golden Onion Rings, Baked Idaho Potato and choice of beverage". An acquaintance across the way ordered a "Sea And Steer Combination" that consisted of Broiled African Lobster Tail and U. S. Prime Club Sirloin, served with drawn butter, a special mushroom sauce and golden onion rings, for \$8.95.

I SPENT PART of the day on my Milwaukee visit, at the world-famous Milwaukee Zoo where I saw for the first time, monkeys diving off a cliff and high

board into a moat that surrounded Monkey Mountain. The management of the Philadelphia Zoo could learn a lot on a visit to Milwaukee.

BEING A newspaper court reporter for many years, this Rambler was interested in a visit to Wisconsin's famous State Capitol in Madison, escorted by Mrs. Bruce F. Beilfuss, wife of Supreme Court Justice Beilfuss where I was shown the layout of the Supreme Court where seven judges sit. Judge Beilfuss and his fine family who are next-door neighbors of my daughter in Madison, presented me with a photograph of the seven Supreme Court Justices inscribed "To our Good Friend, Russ Thomas" and signed Judge Beilfuss.

THERE WERE so many happy experiences during my three week's visit, such as going to the Westside Swim Club pool nearly every day and watching Nancy, Eric and their fine family, Mark, 4; Jon, 9 and Karen, 13 enjoy the water. I was treated to a steak-fry at pool-side one night and believe it or not this 77-year-old enjoyed several dances with daughter Nancy. Twice I was taken to dog obedience classes at the fair grounds in Madison, where the family dog, Nikol, a fine and highly prized Sheltie, is a member of the graduating class this year. A three-mile ride to my son-in-law's office at the University of Wisconsin every week-day morning with daughter Nancy was also enjoyable. Her husband Eric Rolf Rude happens to be the associate dean of the Graduate School of the University of Wisconsin.

ON MY 77th birthday I received a number of greeting cards and telephone calls from friends back in Doylestown and good old Bucks County, which I must admit brought a few tears to the old reporter's eyes.

THEN ON for a 45-mile jaunt by car to the world famous "The House On The Rock" on Highway 23 near Spring Green, Wisconsin. This is a completely different experience, Spring, Summer and Fall, just as it changes its mood with the changes in the weather from day to day. It is unlike any other tourist attraction in the world. It is so fabulous — no word can adequately describe it.

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(continued on page 26)



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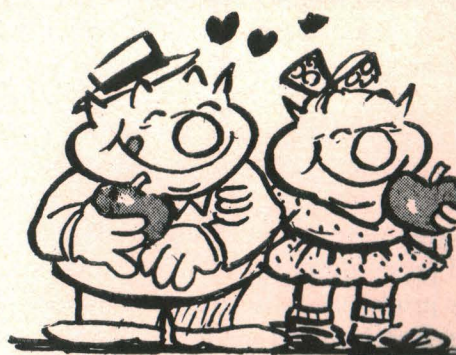
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John Knoell displays hand-crafted gaming table

new BRITAIN craftsman

by Mary Price Lee

Photos by Richard Lee

One of the star attractions in New Britain is the Custom Craft Shop of John Knoell and Son, located on Route 202. Clustered around this store of specialized wood products, is the Knoell factory and a do-it-yourself wood supply shop. These comprise one of the most productive industrial clusters in Bucks County.

In this complex of shops and factory, the accent is on craftsmanship. Coupled with this, is innovation in design and manufacture. In an age when products are slapped together with plastic and a prayer, John Knoell, third generation of John Knoell and Son, sees to it that his products are as beautifully made and as functional as possible. The picture frames, furniture, boxes and various other items have the craftsman's stamp of quality.

So specialized is the work at Knoell's that they often have to design a machine to make a particular item. After making the prototype, they iron out the wrinkles to produce a "first" in the field. Recently, a large machine was needed to put in a thirty-six inch hole. No problem: they made one.

The factory employs forty people of many nationalities. Instead of importing the goods, Mr. Knoell imports the men who deal with them. Carvers from Andalusia are among his many craftsmen.

There is so much competition in component-production that everyone needs a

specialty. Mr. Knoell's is the oval. Little oval or big, shallow or hefty in frame or width, the oval predominates. Its graceful shape turns up again and again throughout the factory.

Although specialization is desirable in such a competitive field, Mr. Knoell feels no real threat from other manufacturers. Nor does he fear that wood is a dying commodity because of the popularity of plastics. "There will always be a demand for wood products with fine craftsmanship," Mr. Knoell asserts. And from the healthy signs of activity in his factory and shops, it must be so. It is reassuring to realize that despite the millions of plastic-produced frames, wood ones, carefully stained, steamed and cornered are still in demand.

The reason for the popularity of his products is that John Knoell unites the latest methods of manufacture with time-honored ones. Thus a corner joined to mathematical perfection has been accomplished by a machine designed to work at optimum speed with optimum exactitude.

A visit to the factory brings a certain nostalgia. The aromas of glue, wood and sawdust carry one back to childhood times when these odors in work areas and small shops were commonplace. (Tinky, the Knoell's ubiquitous cat, calls the factory 'home' and we only hope she has not become addicted to glue-sniffing!)

The acre-long factory is crisscrossed with frame

piles climbing ceiling-ward. Machines rev up to produce a sight and sound spectacle rivaled only by the displays of the Tower of London. Compressed air piped into the plant runs the pneumatic machines while an overhead device swallows the shavings.

A typical job includes the production of tiny wood boxes for the Franklin Mint. Each one undergoes the many processes of design, mitreing and staining. These many steps produce a perfect type of its kind. One can see this transformation when a rough, unexciting piece of teakwood changes into a sleek glowing slab.

Knoell Woodcrafts is an ecology-minded organization. Somewhat like the processing of the pig, they use everything but the "oink." When a frame is cut out, the "doughnut hole" serves as the basis for a plaque. (Their do-it-yourself shop has many such odd pieces to titillate the imagination.) The mountains of sawdust are given to the local SPCA or grace nearby pigpens.

The Knoell products find their way to outlets or are sold in their two shops. Besides the Do-It-Yourself, there is a very exciting craft shop carrying the spectrum of wood and enamel products. A custom-designed, curve-legged billiard table or a tiny plaque represent the range of gifts. Particularly beautiful are the bell glasses with intricately-carved birds. And made-to-order carved pieces and ceramic pins (choose your own design or picture) are a very special service.

Wood responds to skill and care. Mr. Knoell, his wife and other employees give it this loving attention. Their business acumen and craftsmens' skill make Knoells a must on the Bucks County's traveler's map of places to visit.



Mitred picture frame corners being joined



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If it seems inevitable that in our old age we will have to retire to the shade of a plastic imitation tree, there are those who have a much brighter outlook.

While it may be true, as Joyce Kilmer said, that "only God can make a tree," man can do a great deal toward making a better tree. In fact, utilizing modern methods of silviculture, man can create bigger, more densely fibered, and faster growing trees than ever sprang up before. Not only that, he can also cut down the mortality rate of existing forests by fire and disease prevention.

Actually, wood is the only one of our natural resources which can be replenished and increased. When minerals are gone, or a species of life is extinguished, there is no way to return them to the earth. But our forests, while they may decrease in size because of the encroachments of an ever-growing population, can be developed in such a way as to be much more productive per acre than they would be if left entirely alone.

It is indeed fortunate that man can do so much to enrich his sylvan environment. A few basic facts illustrate the point. Today, there are about 2-½ acres of woodlands per person in the United States, but by the year 2000 the needs of a larger population for more highways, airports, and just plain living space will have reduced that figure to 1-½ acres per person. While the number of people is increasing, there is also growth in per capita consumption. The average American uses almost 150 pounds more paper and paperboard than the average Swede who ranks next in per capita consumption, and about nine to ten times as much as the average Russian.

John E. Ray, 3rd, executive vice president of Union Camp Corporation, says, "I think we're in an excellent position not only to satisfy increasing demands for forest products, but also to expand the productive conservation of these resources."

There are two major approaches to attain this goal. One is through greater utilization of our wood resources. Georgia has already made remarkable progress in this area. During the sixties, while state pulpwood production went up about 35 percent, the

use of chips, sawdust, and other formerly wasted wood residues rose 250 percent. That has had the impact of adding more than a million acres to Georgia timberland.

The other most promising effort in preserving the nation's woodlands is the Third Forest concept. The First Forest was the original timberland, the forest primeval that existed before the settlers arrived here. The Second Forest is the one that replaced the First by the random forces of nature alone. The Third Forest is the scientifically managed forest, the one in which businessmen, government, and interested individuals can play and are playing a significant part.

Forest planning is a complex science. It involves irrigation and seed planting programs, of course, but there is much more to it than that. There is much to be gained by woodland genetics. Trees can be developed with specific characteristics in sequential generations. Disease and pest problems can also be controlled by genetics. Soil survey maps — indicating slopes, age, windthrow hazards, and other bits of information — are utilized to develop the best forestry practices in a given area.

Mr. Ray cites his own company's practices. "Union Camp now cultivates 400 to 500 growing trees per acre on land that once supported only 60 to 100 trees per acre. For more than 15 years," he continues, "we have been regenerating eight trees or more for every tree we have cut."

Students of environment know that intensive forestry planning reaps more than the obvious reward of more and healthier trees. They know it enhances air quality. Scientific findings indicate that a new, fast-growing forest can release into the atmosphere as much as four tons of oxygen per acre per year, or enough to meet the needs of about 18 people. Such forests also remove thousands of tons of carbon dioxide from the air. Thus healthy, young forests generate better, purer air.

A healthy forest also contributes to efficient utilization of water. Among other benefits, a forest acts as a watershed, intercepting some of the rain and snow falling on it and percolating the rest through the porous forest floor to streams and underground reservoirs. This prevents the fast runoffs that erode land, silt up rivers, and create floods. New York State, for instance, reforested 340,000 acres of abandoned farmlands in the 1930s, and by 1958, the young forests had reduced flood peaks in critical months by 40 percent.

And it doesn't take an expert to know that a healthy forest contributes to the aesthetic and recreational aspects of the environment.

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BETWEEN FRIENDS

by Sheila Martin



December — the month whose birthstone is the turquoise so named because it came to Europe from Turkey. This pretty stone stands for good fortune and prosperity and that's what we wish all our readers this holiday season.

* * *

We especially wish good fortune to some Bucks County couples who have celebrated wedding anniversaries recently: Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Woll of

Doylestown and Mr. and Mrs. Norman Myers of Chalfont on their 50th, and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Stover of Buckingham on their 40th.

* * *

Mr. Paul Gibson of Southampton was recently elected president of the Southampton Kiwanis Club. He is well known to Southampton residents in his capacity as Southampton Postmaster.

* * *

With all the emphasis on ecology nowadays it is very interesting to learn that plantation grown Christmas trees are providing the country with a substantial clean air resource. Christmas trees change polluted air into clean air through the photosynthesis process. A Bucks County Christmas tree farm that welcomes visitors is Black's Christmas Tree Farm on Stoney Hill Road near New Hope.

* * *

One of the nine dams and reservoirs in Bucks County, plus one in Montgomery County, that comprises the Neshaminy Creek Watershed program, Robin Run is a 41 foot high, 250 foot long dam over Robin Run Creek. The Reservoir will consist of a permanent nine-acre lake which will store three million gallons of water and cover 44 acres and store 120 million gallons of water at maximum flood stage.

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The balance of the 100 acre tract will be maintained as a natural wildlife preserve. Purpose of the Robin Run project is flood control.

* * *

The Bucks County Parks and Recreation Board has announced the availability of the Moravian Pottery and Tile Works to service, civic, fraternal and other non-profit organizations throughout the county, for special tours and/or dinner meetings.

In an attempt to widen the support and interest in the Tile Works, the Board is offering a guided tour, with an option to have a catered dinner and live background music of the late 15th Century. Minimum group acceptable is 35, maximum is 60. If only the tour is desired, a fee of 75 cents per person will be charged; if the tour and dinner with music is desired, the total charge per person ranges from \$5.50 to \$7.50, depending on the menu selected. The guides, catering and music will be provided by the Parks and Recreation Department.

* * *

The Bucks County Symphony Orchestra opened its 19th annual season on November 13, at Central Bucks East High School. Highlighting the opening concert were two featured soloists: Miss Pennsylvania, Miss Maureen Wimmer, soprano, and

Miss Debbie Sobol, pianist. There are two other regular concerts scheduled for February and April, 1972, with two children's concerts scheduled for March. The Bucks County Symphony Orchestra will again be under the direction of Mr. Vernon Hammond.

The Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1953 to encourage classical music in the Central Bucks area, and to provide a place where amateur musicians might get together and enjoy creating music. Since that time, the Orchestra has grown to seventy-five performing members, who rehearse Wednesday evenings at Central Bucks West High School, Doylestown. Members of the community who would like to play with the Orchestra may obtain more information by contacting Miss Margret Zentraf, DI 3-1759.

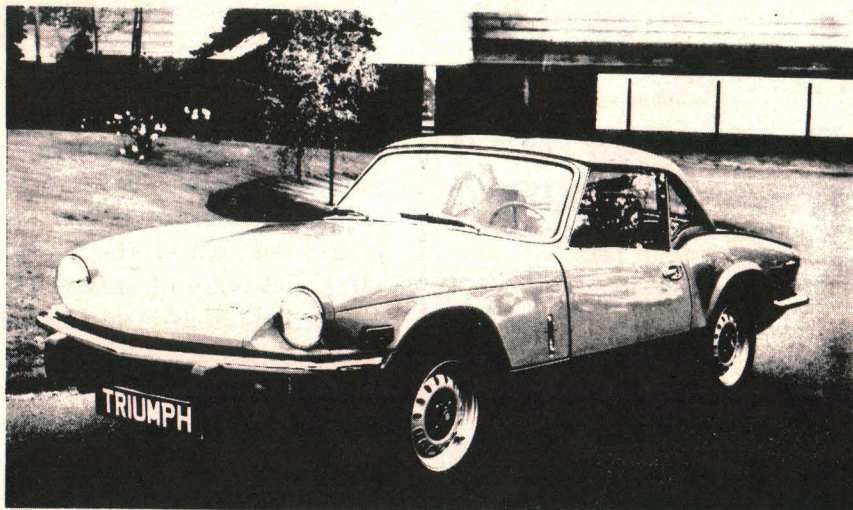
* * *

With the addition of the Pierce Free Library, Perkasio, to the Bucks County Free Library system Bucks County residents now have five free libraries available in strategic areas throughout the county.

To be known as the Bucks County Free Library, Pierce Branch, the newest addition is the fruition of 16 years' effort by volunteer workers and interested

(continued on page 31)

WE'VE GOT THE NEW TRIUMPH SPITFIRE MARK IV



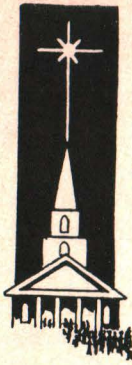
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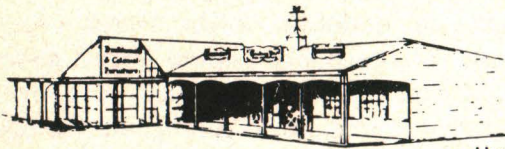
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(RUSS cont. from page 19)

rooms built on a dozen different levels, since there is not a flat spot on the 40-by-200-foot top of the Rock. The Rock has many huge 10-by-30 foot canted windows, suspended outward over sheer space at a 45 degree angle, affording expansive views for a distance of 30 miles.

THE HOUSE On The Rock was personally designed and built by Alex Jordan, who quarried more than 5,000 tons of rock from the sandstone bluffs on another part of the property, and who, over a period of 20 years, carried it to his rock-top retreat, where he welded it to Deer-shelter Rock with 500 tons of mortar and more than two miles of steel cable, so that the structure can withstand winds of 100 mph. The house has seven pools, replete with lights and fountains. Cascading waterfalls tumble out of the Rock and through the great house, finding their way to sheltered pools on the numerous patios, to the grotto. Large trees which originally grew out of The Rock have been left undisturbed. They are now included in the building, passing from floor to ceiling and floor to floor, with branches that spread across rooms, reaching through and above the roof.

THE ROCK has six massive fireplaces, designed to burn the whole trunks of large trees. Complete rooms are built within some of these fireplaces, one even including a stone stair climbing the inside of the back wall to reach huge ovens a floor's height above. Another fireplace I saw contains double barbecue pits.

THE ROCK HOUSE has a wild life pond with a 60-foot waterfall, a duck pond and covered promenade. The Mill House, part of the setup, has a 16-foot mill wheel, the largest fireplace in the world, and a collection of antique clocks, guns, music boxes and antique dolls. And 300,000 trees and shrubs have been planted to complement the fabulous HOUSE ON THE ROCKS. In the library in this fabulous place I left a copy of the August edition of the BUCKS COUNTY PANORAMA.

ALL I CAN add is that it topped off a wonderful vacation trip for this RAMBLER. The House On The Rock will certainly join Disneyland, San Simeon and Shangri-la as a super attraction. Time is coming when it will be seen by 10,000 people a Sunday — Wisconsin's most astonishing tour de force! A work of indisputable genius.

(GENERATION cont. from page 7)

Alex Strachan of Runnemede, N.J. and Mrs. Mabel Sellers, wife of one of the brothers were on hand. The four generations of Sellerses and their spouses spent a delightful day reminiscing, taking pictures, hearing a history of the Larzelere family by Lile Fleetwood, historian and, of course, picnicking. Mr. Robert Sellers of Lower State Road, Eureka presided at the business meeting. Some members were unable to attend — in this day and age families are so scattered — but many still live around the Bucks, Montgomery County, and southern New Jersey areas so over a third of the clan enjoyed the get-together.

Although the two younger generations do not remember much about their great, great grandparents, my generation, the third, heard many stories as we were growing up and recall, vaguely, trips to the various homesteads. My mother tells of the good times they had in the summer, picking fruit and vegetables, eating frogs' legs (now considered a delicacy), walking over the corn stubble in bare feet, skating on the ponds in winter and riding in the horse and buggy. She has often told the story of the time she and some of her sisters were riding in a buggy when the horse bolted. They were all terribly frightened, and I can picture them now racing wildly over the fields, the one sister holding tightly to the reins, singing loudly but resignedly, "Nearer My God to Thee."

It sounds nostalgic and makes one long for the "good old days." However, though it was a simple life compared to our life styles of today, it was not an easy one. There was much work to be done and many mouths to feed. Alice cooked many a noontime meal for fifteen or more people. There were hired hands and city cousins in the summer. In the winter, among other things, there was scrapple to be made. For many years Granville had a stall at the Girard Avenue Farmer's market. It took much preparation for the long, weekly trip into the city. My mother always said that though they were in no way affluent they ate well — off the land. Perhaps the descendants of Granville and Alice Sellers will some time in the not so distant future be grateful that they have farmer's blood in them. The day may come in our pollution ridden society that many more people will be forced to till the land (even though it probably would be a small back yard plot) — for sheer survival. I do know that the two hundred forty-five direct descendants are proud to be part of the Larzelere-Sellers clan and hope that other families will endeavor to strengthen the apparently weakening bond of family unity — at least in spirit.

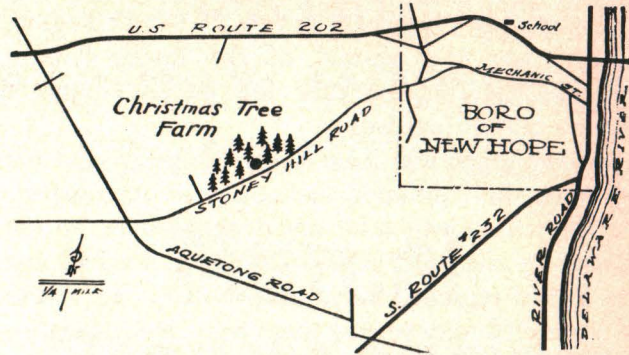
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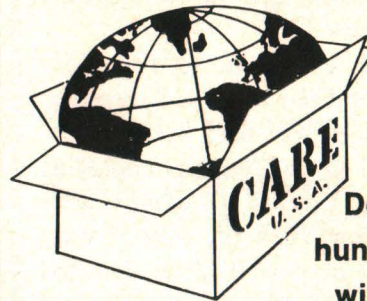
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(SOLDIERS cont. from page 13)

his two companions, over a rural campfire somewhere near Concord. He probably wrapped a stolen greatcoat over his silver trimmed red coattee. His two companions were lately of Tarleton's British Legion, while he was the captain of the Bucks County Dragoons. The freedom they felt in September of 1780 was that of fugitives.

Ephriam Jones was a bit short tempered and red faced when he consigned the notice of their escape from the jail, of which he was deputy gaoler, to the publisher of the *Independent Chronicle*. He had lost three highly regarded Loyalist prisoners; he would have some difficulty getting them back. He nodded to the cow herder as he crossed the green common, and turned and entered his house and grouched his way through supper, having consigned the name of the Bucks County Dragoons to a page of history. He was not concerned about historians unborn who would reprint his little advertisement.

Fortunately, the British army had to pay Tory soldiers, and keep records, and red tape, and secretary subalterns busy and send reports back to London, probably in triplicate, and keep Germain and King George happy. The Bucks County Dragoons were entered in the records at New York the first of May, 1779, among others. They may well have operated with Tarleton and DeLancey in the savage raids and patrols in West Chester County, New York. The agony that area was to so long endure was partially the result of the patriot's lack of cavalry and inability to counter the hit and run raids, although spies could give warning. The foragers could retire to New York and the protection of General Clinton's strong garrison. Clinton sent aid to Cornwallis in the south, and Washington and Rochambeau were planning a siege of New York. This useless endeavor, they gladly gave up in order to trap Cornwallis at Yorktown, thanks to the support offered by Admiral deGrasse, sailing up from the Caribbean with troops and a formidable fleet.

It was at Yorktown that the Tory Bucks County Volunteers may have surrendered. They went there with an American general who had switched sides. They didn't trust him. He had a terrific combat record against the crown. He was brilliant, hot-headed, and his name was Benedict Arnold. He had to listen to the advice of Colonel Dundas and Colonel Simcoe. These were Clinton's orders. Arnold wanted much more. He was ruthless in his destruction of rebel property, as he had been at New London, Connecticut. But everything went wrong; he couldn't



BENEDICT ARNOLD.

get the best out of his British and Tory soldiers, and his command was given to another. Cornwallis might have found good use for Arnold in avoiding Yorktown.

Arnold had taken with him, to Virginia, landing January 3, 1779, near Westover, 25 miles below Richmond — The 18th Foot (The Royal Irish), Simcoe's Tory Queen's Rangers, a detachment of New York Volunteers under Col. Althouse, and Captain Thomas's Bucks County Volunteers — a force of 1,600 invaders. He was soon to be joined by Cornwallis's army retreating from North Carolina. This corps would all be under Cornwallis up through Yorktown. The campaigns which took place in Virginia are well recorded.

This article has served as an introduction to the soldiers of both sides who called Bucks County "home". It is ultimately a sad story, but one not without moments of glory.





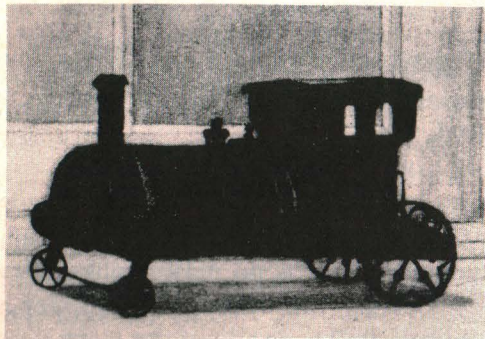
by Burt Chardak

With mechanical banks all but disappearing from the market, collectors are pleading for additions in advertisements in magazines and antique journals.

Some have even written to dealers asking for first consideration.

Many persons who have started out to collect the fascinating mechanicals, have given up and turned to the still banks.

These have no moving parts, but are so varied and colorful, they are almost as much fun to collect — and they are much more reasonable than the mechanicals, which when they can be found, bring



from \$65 to \$1,500.

By way of comparison, the still banks today range from about \$8 (lion) to \$125 (Independence Hall, large). But prices are relative. It depends on what's on the market at any particular time and how much the collector is willing to pay to fill out his collection.

In the Philadelphia area, perhaps the best collection of stills is in the small, well-lighted museum built in Society Hill by Leon J. Perelman.

There you will see some of the rare ones: two sizes of the battleship Maine and one of the Oregon; various sizes of the U. S. Mail, Independence Hall banks which were sold during the Centennial, taxi cab banks and State and City Banks.

(continued on page 31)

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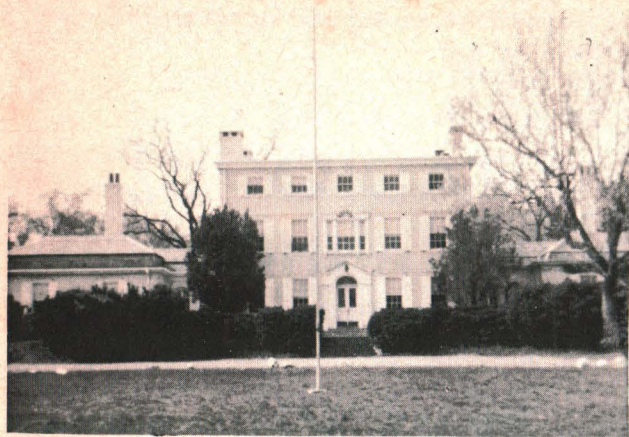
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GHOSTS IN THE VALLEY, by Adi-Kent Thomas Jeffrey. New Hope Art Shop, Print. Div., New Hope. 1971. 96 pp. \$2.00.

In this first of two books by Bucks County author, Adi-Kent Jeffrey, the valley referred to is the Delaware Valley. Panorama readers will recall with pleasure some of the stories by this talented Southampton writer published in our pages and can now look forward to some more excellent reading.

Mrs. Jeffrey has carefully gathered some 40 tales of ghosts and ghostly manifestations, a great number of which have Bucks County itself as the setting. She presents suspenseful, interesting stories of happenings in such towns as Bristol, New Hope, Newtown, Lumberville, Richboro, Plumstead, Warminster, Trevoise, Wrightstown, Ottsville, Langhorne, and Andalusia. The haunting of the Robert Messinger home in Langhorne was recounted in Panorama by Mrs. Messinger as was the story of the ghost at Pen Ryn. Equally fascinating is the tale of the legend of the historic Logan Inn in New Hope. We heartily recommend to our readers, whether believers in ghosts or just in search of fun reading, this most fascinating book.

S.M.



Logan Inn

BOOKS IN REVIEW



Messinger home.

WITCHES AND WIZARDS, by Adi-Kent Thomas Jeffrey. Cowles Book Company, Inc., Chicago. 1971. 101 pp. \$4.95.

In this book, Mrs. Jeffrey presents to her enthralled readers nine tales about real people and actual occurrences. While the book is designated for a juvenile audience, there is no reason why grown-ups won't enjoy delving into the past to meet some witches and wizards. The locale of the stories changes from New England to the South and then on to the mid and far West.

The author's marvelous word pictures make the characters and scenes come alive, further helped by Howard Mueller's fine illustrations. The speech and details used in her story-telling take us back into the early days of our country and we absorb a bit of history as well as a bloodcurdling story.

Both books of Adi-Kent Thomas Jeffrey can be obtained at leading bookstores in Bucks County and are well worth reading. Mrs. Jeffrey has appeared on television in connection with these two books and we understand she is to appear on "What's My Line." In this reviewer's opinion, her line is writing excellent ghost stories.

S.M.



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